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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fifth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Coordination questions: New Partnership for Africa's Development
(*item 4 (b)*)

United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

1. At its 3rd meeting, on 2 June 2015, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (E/AC.51/2015/10).

2. The Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation to and support for the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and commended the Special Adviser on the comprehensiveness of the report and the details provided therein. Delegations emphasized the critical importance of NEPAD to overcoming challenges to the development of Africa and welcomed and expressed support for the efforts of the Office in strengthening the coherence, coordination and effectiveness of the support provided by the United Nations system to NEPAD, including in the context of the constant flux and transformative changes taking place in Africa.

4. Appreciation was expressed for the great effort expended by the United Nations system in support of NEPAD and Africa, notably covering the sectors of

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agriculture, food security and rural development, infrastructure development, peace and security, governance, women's empowerment and gender equality, industry, trade and market access, environment, population and urbanization, social and human development, the response to the Ebola outbreak, science and technology and communication, advocacy and outreach.

5. Delegations underscored the need to support African Member States, the African Union and African regional economic communities in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and in relation to peace and security and development, as well as through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and other bilateral strategic partnerships with Africa such as the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation and the Africa Growing Together Fund. Further information was requested on the current progress and perspective of the implementation of the process relating to the International Conference.

6. Expressing appreciation for the continued support provided by the United Nations to Africa in the field of peacebuilding, efforts to combat drug trafficking and the prevention of terrorism, delegations stressed the need to further enhance support in relation to the prevention of terrorism and highlighted the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Regarding activities relating to peace and security, information was sought on how the Peacebuilding Fund had contributed to the region in recent years. Clarification was also sought on assistance to countries in combating illicit trafficking under the framework of the Airport Communication Project and the Global Container Control Programme, in particular why no mention had been made of Guinea-Bissau. The importance of maintaining the support to consolidate peace and secure long-term stabilization in the countries mentioned in paragraph 29 of the report was underlined.

7. Delegations noted the challenges faced by the United Nations system in providing support to the African Union and NEPAD owing to the lack of dedicated financial resources for the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa and the implementation of the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union on the one hand and the problem of coordination within and among clusters on the other. Delegations welcomed the efforts of the United Nations to enhance coordination and reconfigure the cluster system with a view to improving the delivery of support for the development of Africa. Delegations took note of the successor programme to the 10-year capacity-building programme, which would take the form of a partnership on Africa's integration and development agenda.

8. While noting the recent adoption of the African Union Agenda 2063, delegations acknowledged the dynamic nature of African development priorities, as encapsulated in the Strategic Plan 2014-2017 of the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Strategic Plan 2014-2017 and Agenda 2063 and its 10-year implementation plan, and called for flexibility in aligning United Nations system support with current and emerging African development priorities.

9. Delegations expressed appreciation and support for the efforts of the Special Adviser and his Office in monitoring the implementation of commitments made to the development of Africa and stressed the need to expand coverage to include the new development commitments to be made in the post-2015 development agenda and to continue to report regularly thereon to the General Assembly.

10. Regarding the challenges and constraints cited in the report, clarification was sought as to how NEPAD had gone about addressing the challenges of elaborating joint programmes bearing in mind the differences in the mandates of the individual governing bodies and the different actors on the ground. The need for better coordination among those actors was underlined. It was stressed that, before adopting the partnership on Africa's integration and development agenda, it was important to take into account the experience accumulated throughout the years and the impact of the various projects already implemented in favour of Africa.

11. Reference was made to General Assembly resolution 68/247 A, section VIII, in which the Assembly had strengthened the Office of the Special Adviser. Reference was also made to information contained in the performance review of the senior manager's compact for 2013 and it was highlighted that the Office had not met its targets with regard to recruitment time, the representation of female staff in senior professional posts and the implementation of oversight body recommendations. In that regard, information was sought on more recent performance indicators and efforts by the Office to speed up recruitment to enable it to implement its mandate effectively.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. **The Committee welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for NEPAD (E/AC.51/2015/10) and recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 104 to 116 of the report.**

13. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to continue to include, in his future reports, detailed information relating to the possible outcomes of the achievements of NEPAD targets.**

14. **The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly should reiterate its request to the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in their work in support of NEPAD, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and called upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance.**

15. **The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly should request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to support the Strategic Plan 2014-2017 of the African Union Commission and the 10-year implementation plan for the African Union Agenda 2063.**

16. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to continue to fully take into account the views, comments and/or input of the African Union and other regional and**

subregional mechanisms in their policy formulation and decision-making, mainly in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention and peace and security.

17. **The Committee also recommended that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD should continue to include information not only on seminars, workshops and meetings but also on other tangible actions and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership throughout Africa, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with regard to the resources.**

18. **The Committee commended the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to include information on the activities undertaken by the Office in the areas of advocacy and analytical work, coherence and coordination and facilitation of intergovernmental deliberations relating to the provision of support by the United Nations system to the NEPAD agenda.**

19. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, in the context of his report on NEPAD, to include information on the activities undertaken to support countries to address concerns regarding the protection of women and children, including from sexual violence.**

20. **The Committee emphasized the need for United Nations entities to continue their efforts in support of the region to combat new challenges relating to governance, young people, extremism and terrorism and recommended that the report of the Secretary-General on NEPAD should include information in that regard.**

21. **The Committee recognized the important role played by the development of hard infrastructure in Africa, in particular energy, railways and highways, and recommended that the General Assembly should reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize United Nations system support in that area, in particular for the initiatives of the regional economic communities.**

22. **The Committee emphasized the need for the continued implementation of activities relating to the monitoring mechanism and recommended that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to provide information in that regard.**